

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** Wax filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ for extraction of a used wax filter ~~(10)~~ and for insertion of a new filter in a hearing aid, whereby the manipulator ~~(2)~~ comprises a gripping part ~~(5)~~ to be gripped and held by a user and has a first tool ~~(6)~~ part extending from the gripping part ~~(5)~~ for initially holding a new filter ~~(10)~~ and subsequently releasing the filter ~~(10)~~ in the sound outlet tube or vent opening, wherein a second tool part ~~(7)~~ is arranged adjacent to the first tool ~~(6)~~ part and adapted to receive and hold a used filter ~~(10)~~ in order to extract the filter from the vent or sound outlet opening of a hearing aid, and wherein the two tool parts are arranged side-by-side along one and the same edge part ~~(8)~~ of the gripping part ~~(5)~~.

2. **(Canceled).**

3. **(Currently Amended)** Filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ as claimed in claim 1 where the second tool part ~~(7)~~ comprise a protruding part extending from an edge portion ~~(8)~~ of the gripping part ~~(5)~~, and where the protruding part has an outwardly extending flange portion ~~(12)~~ at its outer end.

4. **(Currently Amended)** Filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ as claimed in claim 3 where the outwardly extending flange portion ~~(12)~~ has a surface facing the edge portion ~~(8)~~ of the gripping part ~~(5)~~ and where said surface extends essentially perpendicular to the length axis of the protruding part.

5. **(Currently Amended)** Filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ as claimed in claim 3, where the protruding part in the direction of the length axis thereof is sectioned into two or more independent sections with slots of free space between the sections.

6. **(Currently Amended)** Filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ as claimed in claim 1, where the second tool ~~(7)~~ comprises blade parts ~~(25,26)~~ having first ~~(25)~~ and second ~~(26)~~ opposed blade parts for gripping and holding a filter ~~(10)~~ at the external circumference thereof.

7. **(Currently Amended)** Filter manipulator as claimed in claim 6, where the blade parts ~~(25,26)~~ are arranged to extend along the surface of the edge portion ~~(8)~~ of the gripping part but distanced from said edge portion ~~(8)~~.

8. **(Currently Amended)** Wax filter ~~(10)~~ for a hearing aid sound outlet opening or vent opening, whereby the wax filter ~~(10)~~ comprises an essentially tubular element adapted to the mouth diameter of the acoustic passage or the vent where the tubular element at a first opening has an ear wax retaining barrier ~~(21)~~, whereby the filter ~~(10)~~ is made of a rigid material and the tubular element at its second opening has an outwardly-extending flange portion ~~(23)~~ and an inwardly-extending flange ~~(22)~~ for removal of the wax filter ~~(10)~~ from the acoustic outlet port or the vent.

9. **(Currently Amended)** Filter ~~(10)~~ as claimed in claim 8, wherein the inwardly extending flange ~~(22)~~ at the second opening has a

surface facing away from the opening of the filter whereby said surface extends perpendicular to the length axis of the tubular element.

10. **(Currently Amended)** Filter ~~{10}~~ as claimed in claim 8, wherein the innermost diameter of the inwardly-extending flange ~~{22}~~ is smaller than the diameter of the outwardly-extending flange ~~{12}~~ on the corresponding extraction tool ~~{7}~~.

11. **(Currently Amended)** Holder ~~{1}~~ for a number of filter manipulators ~~{2,2a}~~, whereby the manipulator ~~{2}~~ comprises a gripping part ~~{5}~~ to be gripped and held by a user and has a first tool ~~{6}~~-part extending from the gripping part ~~{5}~~ for initially holding a new wax filter ~~{10}~~ and subsequently releasing the filter ~~{10}~~ in a sound outlet tube or vent opening, wherein a second tool part ~~{7}~~ is arranged adjacent to the first tool ~~{6}~~-part and adapted to receive and hold a used wax filter ~~{10}~~ in order to extract the filter from the vent or sound outlet opening of a hearing aid where the two tool parts are arranged side-by-side along one and the same edge part ~~{8}~~ of the gripping part ~~{5}~~, whereby the holder ~~{1}~~ has a number of open pockets ~~{3}~~ each shaped to accommodate one manipulator ~~{2}~~ such that the gripping part ~~{5}~~ of the manipulator is accessible for gripping by the fingers of a user and such that the edge part ~~{8}~~ of each manipulator with two tools ~~{6,7}~~ extending therefrom is accommodated within the pocket ~~{3}~~.

12. **(Currently Amended)** Holder ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 11, whereby each pocket ~~(3)~~ has engagement means ~~(35)~~ for releasable engagement with a filter manipulator ~~(2)~~.

13. **(Currently Amended)** Holder ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 11, whereby the holder has a center part ~~(4)~~, with the pockets ~~(3)~~ arranged to extend radially away from said center part ~~(4)~~.

14. **(Currently Amended)** Holder ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 13, whereby the pockets ~~(3)~~ are arranged flat in one and the same plane.

15. **(Currently Amended)** System comprising a filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ and a holder ~~(1)~~ for a filter manipulator ~~(2)~~, whereby the manipulator ~~(2)~~ has a first tool part ~~(6)~~ for initially holding and subsequently releasing a new filter ~~(10)~~ in the sound outlet tube, vent opening or sound passage of a hearing aid and a second tool part ~~(7)~~ adapted to receive and hold a used filter ~~(10)~~, where the manipulator ~~(2)~~ further comprises a gripping part ~~(5)~~ to be gripped and held by a person and where the first and second tool parts ~~(6,7)~~ are arranged side-by-side at side-by-side along one and the same edge part of the gripping part ~~(5)~~, whereby the holder ~~(1)~~ for the manipulator ~~(2)~~ comprises at least one pocket ~~(3)~~ for accommodating at least the two tool parts ~~(6,7)~~.

16. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 15, whereby a snap lock mechanism ~~(30,35)~~ is provided between the holder ~~(1)~~ and the filter manipulator ~~(2)~~ for releasable engagement between the two.

17. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 16, whereby the snap lock mechanism (30,35) comprises a U-shaped cut out (30) in the manipulator (2) with a first (31) and a second (32) leg, and a protruding part (35) inside the pocket (3), whereby the legs (31,32) of the U-shaped cut-out (30) of the manipulator (2) are shaped to embrace the protruding part (35) in interlocking engagement when the manipulator (2) is inserted into the pocket (3).

18. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 17, whereby the U-shaped cut-out (30) is arranged between the two tool parts (6,7) of the manipulator (2), and such that the first and second leg (31,32) of the U-shaped cut-out (30) carry the first (6) and second (7) tool part respectively.

19. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 15, where the filter manipulator (2) and the pocket (3) are shaped in asymmetric fashion, such that the manipulator (2) can only be inserted in the pocket (3) when oriented in one way with respect to the holder (1).

20. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 15, where the pocket (3) has material parts or shoulders (36,37), which narrowly surrounds the second tool part (7) of the manipulator (2) when the manipulator (2) is clicked in place in the pocket (3) in order that the manipulator (2) cannot be inserted into the pocket (3) of the holder (1) once a used filter (10) is held at the second tool part (7).

21. **(Currently Amended)** System as claimed in claim 17,
whereby the U-shaped cut-out is slightly off-set to one side to make one
of the legs of the U-shaped cut out bigger than the other leg, and that the
corresponding protruding part ~~(35)~~ in the pocket is similarly off set to
thereby assure the asymmetric shape of the manipulator ~~(2)~~ and pocket
~~(3)~~.